Presidential veto threat or an actual veto on the Interior bill. Indian leaders have asked that the political and financial stakes be emphasized, particularly in the Western states.[555]

There is no record of whether Fowler made the requested calls.

Interaction between Indian leaders and both Fowler and his DNC Finance staff continued at a heightened level in the ensuing weeks, including correspondence with Gover and Stetson on positioning DNC Indian outreach,[556] and an Oct. 5 meeting Fowler hosted for Indian gaming leaders from Southern California. At that meeting, as in many of the fall 1995 communications, the Indians' focus was largely on a proposal to tax Indian gaming revenues that had passed the House Ways and Means Committee and was then pending before the Senate Finance Committee. After this meeting, Fowler provided a policy briefing memo to presidential aide Bruce Lindsey highlighting concern over this bill, as well as tribal interest in Interior appropriations issues, proposed amendments to IGRA and the defense of tribal sovereignty generally. With Crain's help, Fowler then immediately broadcast to Indian leaders news of Fowler's "communication to the President" of their concerns via a faxed memo dated Oct. 16. At the same time, Crain made plans for a further DNC event in Washington to draw Indian participation, and he advocated sending a DNC official to the San Diego convention of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) in late October. DeAtley ultimately represented the DNC at that event. Crain viewed the NCAI convention as an "opportunity to pitch" an upcoming Nov. 8 DNC fund-raising

---

[555]A Sept. 9 Crain memo on this same subject stated that the tribal leaders warned of loss of "significant pledges of support for the Committee to Re-elect and the DNC," and said that Indian leaders requested calls to Panetta, Ickes and Babbitt.

[556]Stetson's records reflect that she maintained a high level of DNC and Clinton/Gore '96 fund-raising efforts with various tribes from the fall of 1995 through 1996.